

CAFO WPDES Compliance Report (10-30-09)

Inspection date: October 15, 2009

Inspection type: Permit reissuance

Operation Name: Dairyland Farms LLC

WPDES Permit No. WI-0059552-02-0

Operation Address: Mercier & Gauthier Roads

Legal Description: NW ¼ Section 23 & NE ¼ of SE ¼ Section 22, T24N, R22E

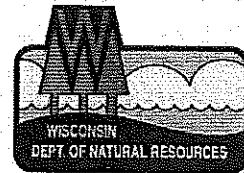
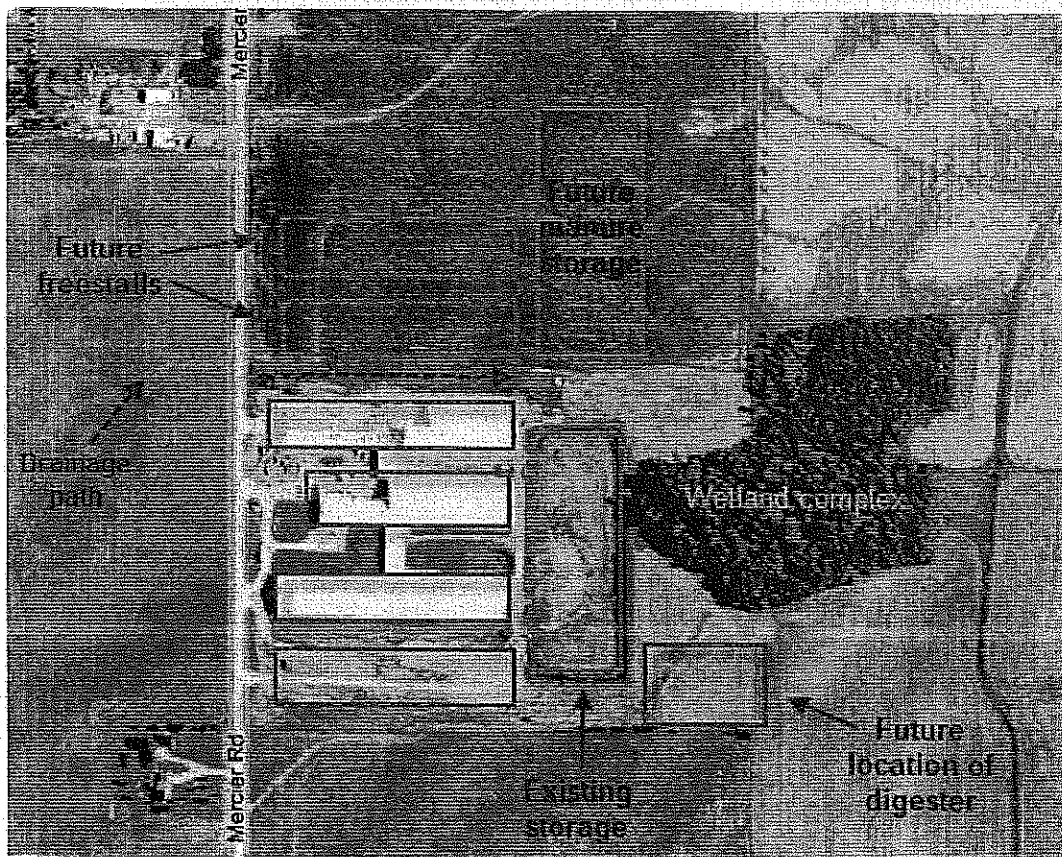
On-Site Representative(s): Larry Dufek, Farm Owner

Responsible Official: Casey Jones, Agricultural Runoff Management Specialist

Meeting and Site Inspection Summary:

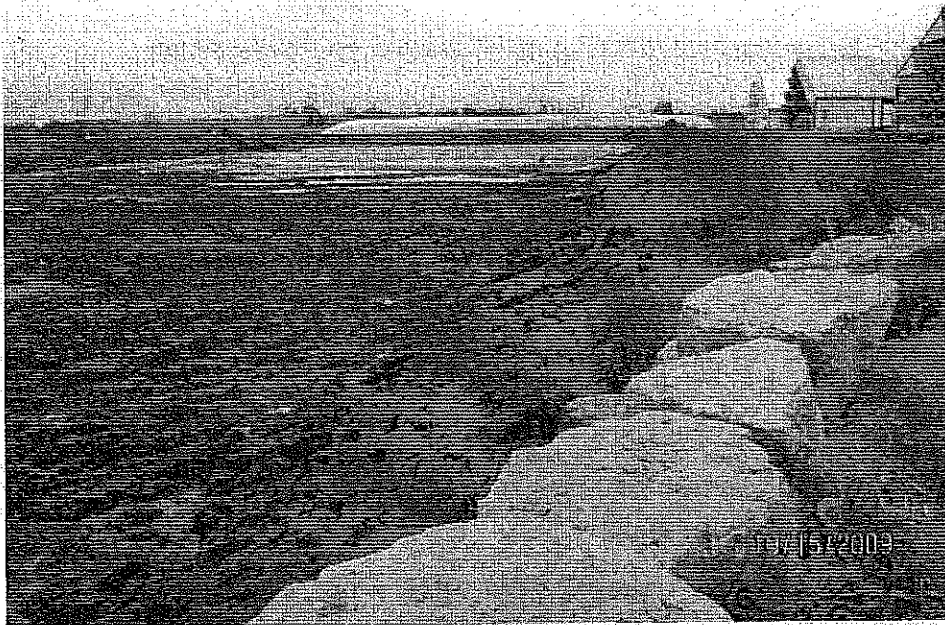
Future Plans

Dairyland Farms plans to expand substantially during the next permit term from 3700 animal units (AU) to approximately 7150 AU. Plans for an additional manure storage and manure transfer from two new freestall barns at the Dairy Center have already been reviewed and approved by the Department. Dufek also stated that plans are being developed for constructing a GHD digester and digested solid bedding storage area just west of existing manure storage. See Dairy Center overview photo below.



Dairy Center Observations

The Dairy Center facility is well maintained—surrounding drainage ditches are mowed and wheat straw bedding is kept in silage bags. Manure levels were below margin of safety and storage appears to be in good condition. Dufek indicated that Dan Davister is in charge of weekly inspections of the storage which are recorded in the CAFO Calendar. Davister indicated he walks the perimeter of the storage and has repaired rodent holes by filling with a combination of gravel and dirt. Manure storage does not have fencing in place—fencing a minimum of 4 feet high needs to be installed.



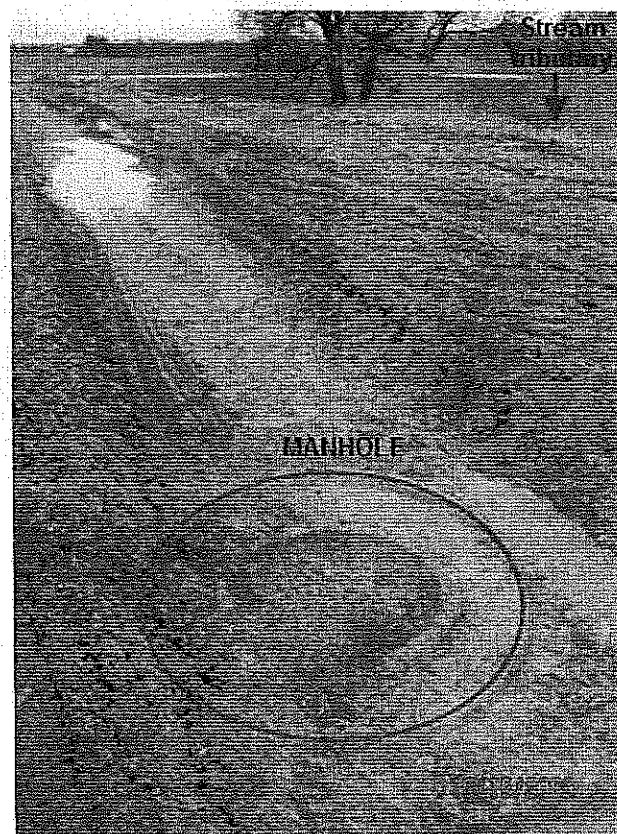
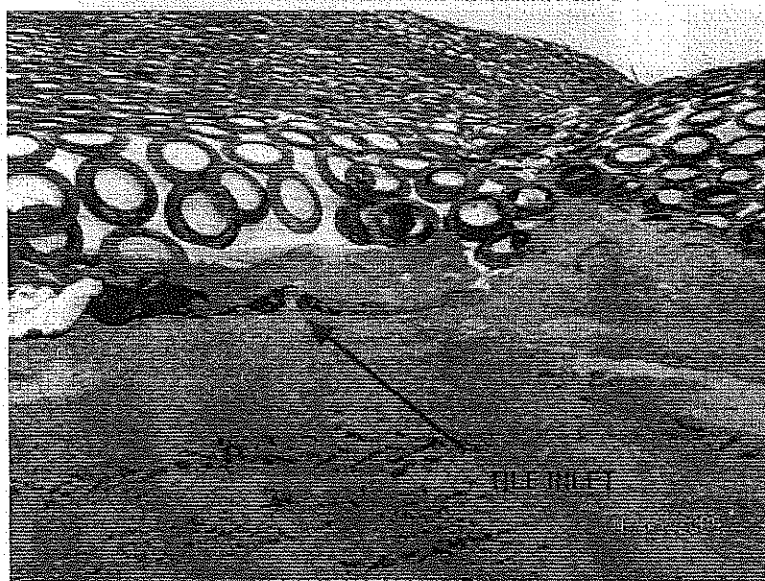
Looking south at earthen manure storage.



Looking east at north side of storage.

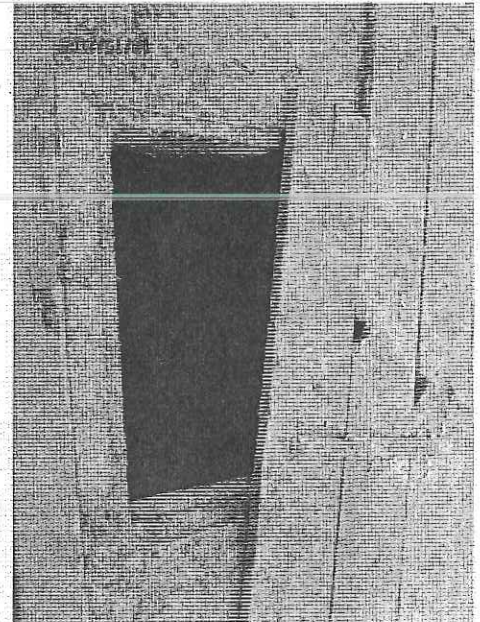
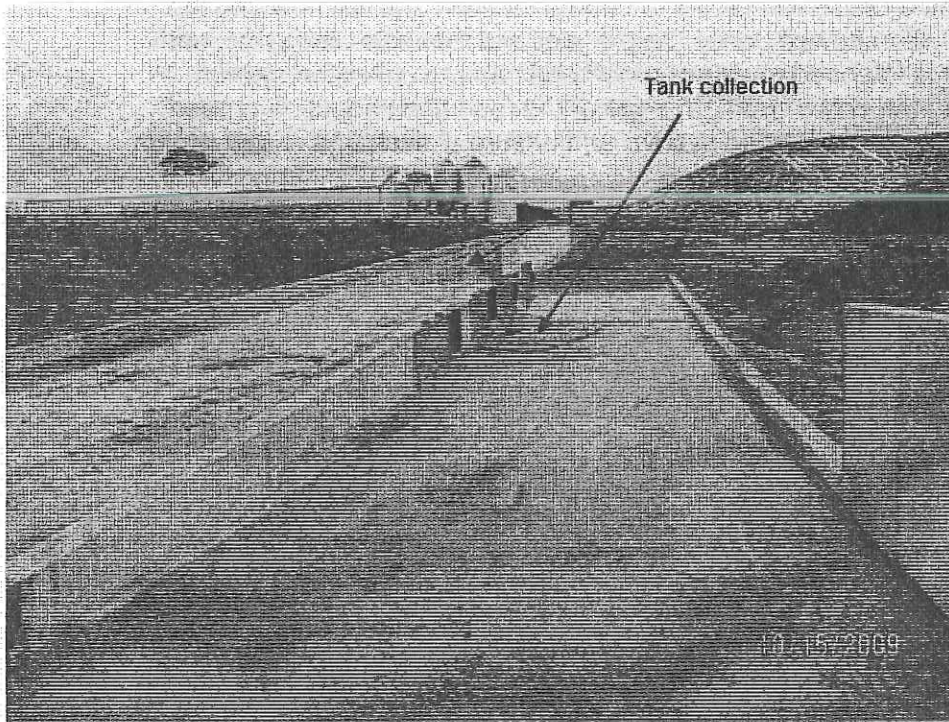
Home Farm Observations

This location houses the older dairy cows and has a large feed storage area and earthen manure storage. Phase one of constructing the feed leachate collection system was nearing completion at time of inspection. Phase two which consists of establishing the vegetated treatment area (VTA) will occur in spring of 2010. According to Dufek there are tile lines under the concrete feed pad. Dufek stated entire pad drains to central location and will flow into the constructed collection system. Dufek showed Jones the tile inlet and manhole along the south side of the feed storage pad that is intended to collect runoff and carry to collection system. A more defined earthen berm along the entire southern edge of the feed pad should be graded and stabilized to help divert all runoff to collection system and ensure a discharge to the stream tributary is prevented.



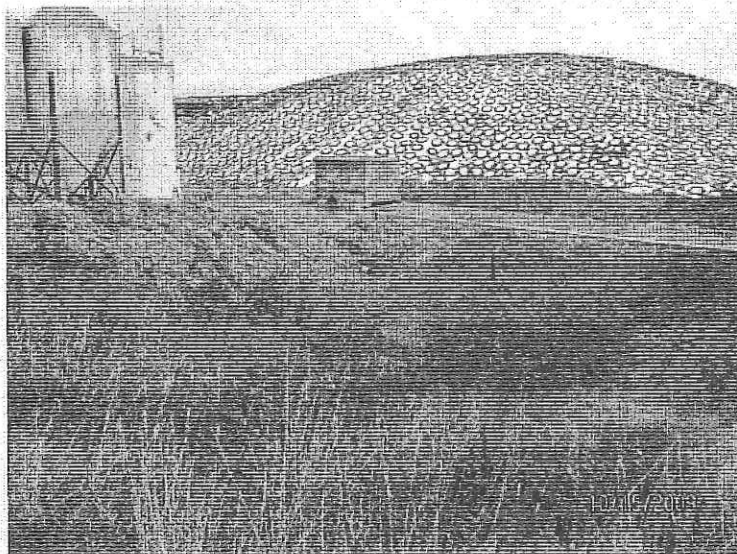
Weekly inspection of the feed storage area runoff system will be required in reissued permit. Tile inlets and manhole need to be cleared of solids to prevent clogging.

Jones told Dufek a set of as-built drawings to show complete construction documentation of the feed leachate collection system that includes a map of drain tile system will need to be submitted after completion of project. Dufek stated that installing a secondary settling basin within the VTA area is an option if the VTA does not support the volume of storm water runoff.



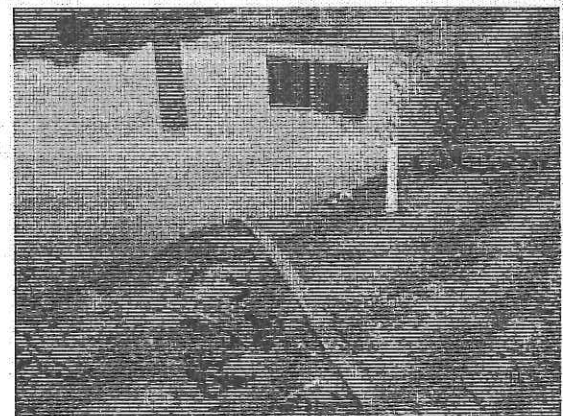
Close-up of tank collection.

Looking east at recently constructed runoff controls for feed storage area. VTA will be to south.



Above: Looking southeast, ditch in foreground will be filled in to divert all runoff to concrete collection system.

Right: Photos show temporary collection system that had been in place, leachate was pumped from ditch to storage.



The earthen manure storage at the Home Farm was constructed in 1992. The permit compliance schedule requested a full evaluation of this structure be completed by September 30, 2005; after file review, a Department letter dated May 19, 2005 provided as-built review comments of this structure that indicate further evaluation was not required. However, because the storage was constructed to an outdated standard and will soon be receiving a large volume of liquid content from the leachate collection system a written evaluation discussing this issue and including storage capacity calculations needs to be included in the permit application package. Fencing also needs to be installed around this storage. Photos below.



Looking north at manure storage.



Looking west at concrete ramp into storage.

Conclusion:

At this time Dairyland Farms LLC is considered to be in substantial compliance with current WPDES permit conditions. The installation of feed storage area leachate collection and runoff controls should resolve past concerns with discharges to nearby tributary. The planned effective date of the reissued permit is July 1, 2010.